



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Grand Canyon National Park

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Grand Canyon News Release

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Prescribed Fires Successfully Completed on Grand Canyon's South Rim

Grand Canyon, AZ – The National Park Service, with the assistance of local cooperators and private contractors, successfully completed approximately 2700 acres in planned prescribed fires on the South Rim of Grand Canyon National Park near Grand Canyon Village this week. The 1634 acre Long Jim II Prescribed Fire was completed Saturday, May 6 and the 1071 acre Shoshone Prescribed Fire on Monday, May 8.

Smoke in the Grand Canyon vicinity will continue to diminish over the next several days. Residual fire activity in the two units may continue to be visible to vehicles traveling on Highway 64 East and South, particularly at night. No fire closures or restrictions are presently in place in Grand Canyon National Park but visitors should not enter the blackened burn areas.

The two fires are part of an ongoing park effort to promote ecosystem restoration and reduce hazardous fuels near Grand Canyon Village and other park developments through the use of carefully planned prescribed fires. Grand Canyon Village is located in the wildland urban interface, an area where homes and other developments are located adjacent to burnable vegetation. Prescribed fire is a tool that is used by the National Park Service to help protect these areas from wildfire.

Grand Canyon National Park Superintendent Joe Alston would like to thank park visitors and Grand Canyon and Tusayan community members for their tolerance of short-term smoke impacts during the Long Jim II and Shoshone Prescribed Fires. These short-term impacts will lead to greater protection of the developed area and park resources.

Spring prescribed fire activity in Grand Canyon National Park will now shift to the North Rim. If conditions become suitable, the Bright Angel and Northwest Prescribed Fires may be ignited. The 100 acre Bright Angel unit is located throughout the North Rim developed area. The 2800 acre Northwest unit is located approximately 12 miles northwest of the North Rim developed area near Swamp Ridge Road. Adjacent Kaibab National Forest lands are also included in the Northwest unit.

For additional fire information, please call 928-638-7819. You may also visit Grand Canyon's web site at <http://www.nps.gov/grca/>

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